



THINGOE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

WEST SUFFOLK.



R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year

1942.

ROBERT H. CLAYTON., M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.

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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health for the Rural District of Thingoe,
in the County of West Suffolk, for the year ending
31st December, 1942.

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Public Health Offices,
Westgate House,
Bury St. Edmunds.

June, 1943.

To:-

The Chairman and Members of the
Rural District Council of Thingoe.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Herewith I beg to submit for your favourable
consideration my seventh Annual Report as Medical Officer of
Health, being for the year ended 31st December, 1942.

Except in the case of items for which full
particulars are required by the Minister of Health, the report
has been limited on his instructions, owing to the War.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ROBERT H. CLAYTON,
M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

also Medical Officer of Health Newmarket Urban,
Cosford, Mildenhall and Thedwastre Rural Districts and
Assistant County Medical Officer of Health -
West Suffolk.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR. A.E.Ford, M.S.I.A., Diploma R.S.I.,
also Building Surveyor and Petroleum
and Explosives Officer.

SANITARY INSPECTOR. S.M. Casson, A.R.San.I., Cert. S.I.B.,
M.S.I.A., Meat and Other Foods Certificate
R.S.I., throughout the year, a prisoner
of war.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITION OF THE AREA.

1. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area	106,500 acres		
Registrar General's estimate of the resident population mid-year	17,220	Rateable value	£51,034
Number of inhabited houses at end of year according to Rate Book	4,814	Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£220

2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	269	137	132
Illegitimate	17	10	7
<u>Stillbirths.</u>			
Legitimate	9	5	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-
<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>210</u>	<u>111</u>	<u>99</u>
<u>Birth Rate.</u>		Thingoe 16.6	England & Wales 15.8
<u>Stillbirth Rate per 1000 total (live & still) births</u>	"	30.5	
<u>Death Rate per 1000 resident population</u>		12.2	11.6
<u>Death Rate of Infants under 1 year</u>			
All infants per 1000 live births		52.4	49
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate births		52.0	
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate births		58.8	

15 deaths of infants under 1 year occurred, (8 males and 6 females, legitimate and 1 male illegitimate). 2 deaths from Maternal Causes (Heading 30), 29 deaths from Cancer, 1 death from Whooping Cough, no deaths from Measles or Diarrhoea (under 2 years) were recorded.

On the following page is a table giving the causes and the number of deaths occurring at the various age groups. The totals correspond with the Registrar General's figures. The deaths are classified under the Headings given in the Manual of the International List of Causes of Deaths - 1938.

CAUSES OF DEATHS.

Deaths at the Sub-joined ages of
"RESIDENTS" whether occurring in or
beyond District.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

(ii)(a) LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The Emergency Public Health Laboratory at Cambridge, under the Directorship of Dr. A.W. Downie, in addition to the usual public health bacteriological examinations, provided Monthly Progress Reviews, (giving information on bacteriological and epidemiological problems occurring throughout the Country), examined water samples and provided diphtheria immunisation materials and measles serum. The payment for these facilities was revised during the year and the lump sum fixed to cover also any specimens examined in emergency by the West Suffolk General Hospital.

{b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES. }
{c) NURSING IN THE HOME. }
{d) CLINICS & TREATMENT CENTRES. }
{e) HOSPITALS. } No change.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1.(i) WATER.

27 samples were taken from Public piped supplies - all were satisfactory save initial samples from two new supplies prior to adequate flushing of the mains. Of 37 samples obtained from other private sources only 12 results were satisfactory.

5 new connections were made to mains during the year. The Council's piped water supplies are a considerable benefit to the District - the consumption of water from these supplies now approaches in some cases their maximum output - occasionally, as at Barrow temporary restriction on consumption has had to be adopted.

Repairs and renewals to wells were carried out.

(ii) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

During the year 1 new drain was laid, 10 drains were cleared or repaired and 5 cesspools were emptied.

2. RIVERS AND STREAMS.

During 1942 Drainage Boards whose jurisdiction covers rivers and streams in the area continued the clearing and deepening of water courses in the District as part of their agricultural policy. 86 visits to drains, ditches and water-courses showed 24 defects such as blockages, silting up and fractures in pipes which were remedied.

3. (i) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The closet accommodation of the District is estimated at W.C. 1%, Pail Closet 59% and Privy Vaults 40%. The high proportion of privy vaults is not satisfactory - it is hoped that as additional labour and materials become available this will be remedied.

(ii) PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Organised and energetic salvage efforts considerably reduced the amount of household refuse for disposal by tenants.

(iii) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The following tabular statement has been supplied to me by Mr. Ford:-

<u>(a) Number of inspections.</u>	<u>No. of Defects found.</u>
Housing (Public Health	211)
Housing Act	30)
Revisits	166)
Tents, vans & sheds	10
Camps & Hostels	43
New Buildings	6
Factories	16
Shops	12
Schools	26
Cowsheds & Dairies	296
Slaughterhouses	2
Butcher's premises	5
Samples taken (water)	64
(milk)	2
Drains, ditches & watercourses	86
Infectious Diseases & disinfections	62
Sanitary Accommodation	15
Sources of water supply	134
Refuse tips & dumps	10
Cesspools	9
Keeping of pigs & fowls	1
Suspected verminous premises	24
Treatment of verminous premises	4
Revisits	215
Miscellaneous visits	
For evacuation	133
Billeting	4
Salvage	116
Other matters	4
Grand total	1706

Factory Act.

4 new factories were registered. 16 visits were paid to factories and 3 defects (2 insufficient sanitary accommodation and 1 oil seepage) remedied.

(iv) SHOPS AND OFFICES.

No action was taken as the result of the 12 visits recorded.

(v) CAMPING SITES.

1 licence was issued for a site on which 5 persons reside - 1 site was closed.

(vi) SMOKE ABATEMENT. } Nil.
(vii) SWIMMING BATHS & POOLS. }

- 2 -
(viii) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Disinfestation of 4 private dwelling houses was carried out; one by using "Fuminol" applied by spray by the Council's Officer and three with Hydrogen Cyanide by Associated Fumigator's, Ltd.,.

4. SCHOOLS.

26 visits to schools were made. At one the drainage was improved and at another refuse accumulations were removed.

SECTION D.

H O U S I N G.

1. (1) (a)	Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts.)	241
(2)	Number of inspections made for the purpose of Dwellinghouses recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1925	407
	Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding Sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	42
2.	<u>Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notice.</u>	46
	Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	17
3.	<u>Action under Statutory Powers during the year.</u> (a) <u>Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.</u>	
	(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
	(2) Dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice	Nil
	(b) <u>Proceedings under Public Health Acts.</u>	
	(1) Dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	1
	(2) Dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice (a) By Owners	1
	(c) <u>No proceedings under Sections 11, 13 and 25 of the Housing Act, 1936, or under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.</u>	
4.	<u>Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding.</u>	
(a) (i)	No. of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	7
	(ii) No. of families dwelling therein	9
(iii)	No. of persons dwelling therein	56
{b}	New cases of overcrowding reported in 1942	3
(c) (i)	Cases of overcrowding relieved	8
(ii)	No. of persons concerned in such cases	61
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority having taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	
(c)	The Council possess 402 Council Houses.	Nil

SECTION E.INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.(a) MILK SUPPLY.

The number of Registered Cowkeepers in the District in 1942 was 163 (wholesale producers 70, retailers 93) of which 25% are either "Accredited" or "Attested". The number of visits to cowsheds and dairies was 296, the defects found 98 (64 structural and 34 methods). Cleaning of cowsheds was obtained in 9 cases and in 11 cases structural improvements were carried out.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Centralized slaughtering has taken regular killings out of the District. 3 Pork carcases (casual slaughters) were examined and 16 lbs tubercular pork was condemned. Two 7 lb cans of luncheon meat also were condemned.

{c) ADULTERATION, ETC.
 {d) CHEMICAL & BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.
 {e) NUTRITION.
 {f) SHELL-FISH (Molluscan)
 {g) WATER CRESS. } No change.

SECTION F.PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS & OTHER DISEASES.ALL NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1942.

Diseases	Total Cases Notified.	Age in Years.												Hospital Deaths.
		-1	1	2	3	4	5	-10	-15	-20	-35	-45	-65	
Scarlet Fever	27	-	1	2	3	-	9	6	-	6	-	-	-	9
Whooping Cough	57	-	1	6	4	6	31	9	-	-	-	-	-	1
Diphtheria	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1
Measles	4	-	1	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	1
Total:-	94	-	3	8	7	6	43	17	-	8	2	-	-	12
														4

T U B E R C U L O S I S.New Cases and Mortality during 1942.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory M.	Respiratory F.	Non-Respiratory M.	Non-Respiratory F.	Respiratory M.	Respiratory F.	Non-Respiratory M.	Non-Respiratory F.
0-5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-25	2	1	-	-	1	1	-	-
25-35	2	-	1	1	-	-	1	-
35-45	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
45-55	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	-
55-65	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & over	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	1
Total:-	6	5	1	2	2	4	1	1

47 cases remained on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year, Respiratory Male 20, Female 15 and Non-Respiratory Male 9, Female 3.

The number of notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis) in 1942 was 94 - a considerable improvement on the 317 of 1941.

By the end of 1942 65% of children under 5 years of age and 96% of children between 5 and 15 years of age had completed the Diphtheria Immunisation course.

During 1942 131 cases of Scabies were treated - 51 under the old arrangements and 80 at the Centre equipped and staffed by this Authority ~~and opened in~~ September.